



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

VICKSBURG DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
4155 CLAY STREET
VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI 39183-3435

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

December 2, 2010

Programs and Project
Management Division
Project Management Branch

Honorable Gary Rhodes
Chairman
Rankin-Hinds Pearl River Flood
and Drainage Control District
Flood Control Subcommittee
P.O. Box 320069
Flowood, Mississippi 39232-0069

Dear Mayor Rhodes:

I refer to our meeting on November 22, 2010, at the Vicksburg District office between the Rankin-Hinds Pearl River Flood and Drainage Control District (RHPRFDCD) Flood Control Subcommittee and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, staff concerning resumption of Pearl River Watershed studies with the inclusion of a "Lower Lake Plan." This letter summarizes our discussions.

In a letter to Mr. Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), dated August 5, 2010, members of Mississippi's congressional delegation stated support for further Pearl River Watershed investigations to include study of a One-Lake Plan. Secretary Darcy responded by letter on September 17, 2010, stating that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would resume the Pearl River Watershed study, with inclusion of a one-lake alternative, provided funds to continue the study are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act.

In view of this guidance, using available FY 2010 funds, we have begun updating the Project Management Plan (PMP) and preparing a new Feasibility Cost-Sharing Agreement (FCSA) which is necessary for study resumption. The PMP will detail the tasks required to include a One-Lake Plan and complete the study. The PMP will also include updates on costs and schedule

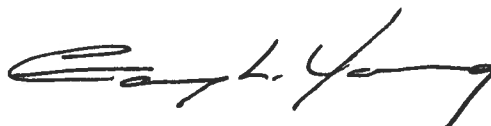
for completion of the feasibility report. The FCSA is a legal document between the Corps and RHPRFDCD detailing the financial responsibilities of both parties for the conduct of the investigations. As with the previous effort, feasibility study costs must be cost shared equally between the Corps and RHPRFDCD in accordance with current cost-sharing requirements. We expect to complete a draft PMP for review by RHPRFDCD by February 1, 2011. The draft PMP will include proposed work-in-kind which could be accomplished by RHPRFDCD or their consulting engineers and the remaining cash required for the non-Federal share. Upon the successful negotiation of the PMP with RHPRFDCD and once an appropriation is received, we will sign the new FCSA and resume the study.

Please note that detailed studies of a Lower Lake Plan will determine if this plan can be recommended as a Federal flood control project. As detailed in previous correspondence, any plan recommended will have to meet a number of requirements to include environmental acceptability. Based on all studies and coordination to date, the comprehensive levee plan has been determined to be the NED plan; however, detailed investigations of a One-Lake Plan could result in other conclusions or confirm the previously recommended NED levee plan.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is committed to work closely with RHPRFDCD in the conduct of further investigations.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Gary Walker, Senior Project Manager (telephone (601) 631-5469), or write to the above address, ATTN: CEMVK-PD-F.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary L. Young". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" being more prominent.

Gary L. Young
Chief, Vicksburg Planning Branch